

EVACUATION HOSPITAL "2 USA  
Pottillon France, Nantes District.

30 March 1919.

My Dearest Wife:-

I recieved two letters from you yesterday that did me more good than any that I have ever recdeved from you, for in them I learned that the babies were better and that you are really not as worried as I was led to believe in the last one I got. I know that it is far from pleasant for you Dear, but inasmuch as there is nothing that I can do to hurry up this homegoing business, and that we will be on the way in such a short time comparatively speaking, I think that we may as well be satisfied with the decision of the Gods, and make the best of the matter.

I haven't the slightest idea that we will be here for more than two or three weeks more. I think that the Major was telling the exact facts of the case when he said that we would be out of here and in the port not later than the 15th of April, and if we are we will be at home not later than the first of May. That will be rather good after all Dearest, when you stop to consider that seven months ago, we niether of us thought that I would be at home for two or three years. So there is always something to be thankfull for, and we should consider that as much as the disappointment that we feel because I was not the first one of this huge army to be sent home. The problem of moveing an army of this size home must be a great one to unravel and it requires a lot of patience on the part of everyone to make the time seem short.

I woke up this morning at about three o'clock to hear a tremendous crash, and found out that a large walk next door, had been undermined by the constant rains, and had fallen into the street. The river has continued to flood so much that some of the men who are billeted down rather close to the river shore, but many feet above the level of the old river ank, found themselves confronted by the necessity of either wading or staying in their billett this morning. I have made arrangements already for their transfer to another billett where they will be out of the danger of a recurrence of such an event, and then we will all be fixed. This is really the greatest country for rain that I have ever seen. It never stops for more than an hour or two at the most. Oh! I will be glad to get back to God's country, and be with you



2.

all again. It will be altogether too good to be true. I won't believe that it is going to happen untill it does. But Oh! Boy-- won't we have a time when it occurs?

The sun is coming out in good shape now. I hope that it will stay out for a while, and maybe this water will dry up a bit. It has become very tiresome and is also far from healthy. It also makes it impossible to take the men out for a hike or to drill them at all, and while they don't mind, I do for it is just that much harder to keep them in hand when they are not being worked. I will certainly be glad when I am out of the army and have nothing but the worries of the country doctor again.

Well Dearest I will have to close again. This letter is a very short one but the Sergeant just recalled to me that there is a lot of work to do for some of the men who have to go to the hospital this morning, and I will have to get at it so that they will not be delayed. I will write again tomorrow, and will make it a longer letter. Give my love to the babies and Glad. Tell them how much I love them and give them lots of kisses from me. With all the love in the world to you Dearest and a million kisses, I am as ever your loving

*Ansel B. Smith*

Ansel B. Smith Captain MC USA

*Husband*

Evacuation Hospital "2 USA

Amer EF France.